



Friday 12th June 2026

The children returned to school looking sun-kissed and healthy after a sweltering hot half-term, and it has been wonderful to see how quickly they have settled back into the final learning journeys of the year. Across St Katherine's, pupils have shown real focus, particularly in Year 1 and Year 4, as they undertook their important national assessments - the Phonics Screening Check and the Multiplication Tables Check respectively - key measures that both children and staff have been working hard towards throughout the year. The first two weeks have been packed with learning, enrichment and purposeful classroom activity, a small snapshot of which I've captured below to showcase the brilliant start we've made to this final half term.

E-Safety Information

New national guidance has been issued to schools on the safe use of photographs and videos of children. As a Trust, we have a duty of care to safeguard our pupils, staff and wider school community against the increasing risks of online misuse and AI manipulation of images. **Therefore, from next week, all new photographs will follow a safer standard, using over-the-shoulder shots and distance views, rather than close-up or individually identifiable pictures.** We are actively exploring longer-term technical solutions, but in the interim this approach ensures we can continue to celebrate school life while keeping our children's privacy and safety at the forefront.

This week's parent guide focuses on the impact of image-altering filters on children and young people. These filters can distort how children see themselves, create pressure to look "perfect", lower self-esteem and blur the line between real and edited content. The guide also highlights risks such as hidden advertising and sexualised edits, and offers practical advice on helping children recognise what's real, challenge unrealistic posts and build confidence offline.

Please click on the [link](#) to access the short parent information guide.



Assistant Head Appointment

We are delighted to share the news that Miss Wood has been appointed as our new Assistant Headteacher for *Inclusion, Engagement and Belonging*, joining us from September. Miss Wood will be with us on a two-year secondment from Loose (one of our partnership schools), and her appointment marks an exciting step in strengthening collaboration across our Trust.

Miss Wood will be working closely with Mrs Loveland to further develop and extend the support we provide for our pupils. Alongside this, she will lead on our strategic approach to inclusion and belonging, ensuring that every child feels known, valued and connected to our school community. Her experience will add real capacity to this area - helping us refine systems, strengthen consistency and deepen the culture of belonging that sits at the heart of St Katherine's.

As part of this work, Miss Wood will also contribute to our ongoing efforts to support strong attendance, recognising that children feel a greater sense of belonging when they are in school regularly, forming relationships and taking part in daily learning and enrichment.

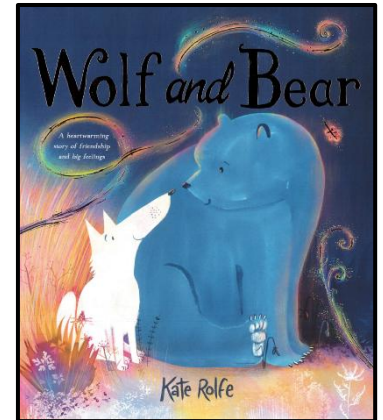
Miss Wood will be in school this term as part of her transition and is very much looking forward to meeting families and becoming part of the St Katherine's community.



Assembly

This week's assembly continued to deepen children's understanding of our school value of **compassion**. Using the magical book 'Wolf and Bear', we explored how compassion can take many different forms, from gentle persistence to knowing when someone needs space. I ended the story with a challenging question about Wolf's actions, and I was extremely impressed by the children's thoughtful responses, respect for one another's viewpoints and the clarity with which they articulated their ideas.

Please click in the [link](#) to view the assembly.



Achievement Assembly

It was an absolute delight to welcome parents into St Katherine's for our final Achievement Assembly of the year. Teachers selected children who had shown exceptional commitment to our school values, and each pupil took center stage to share and celebrate their achievements with confidence and pride. Thank you to all who attended - your children are a credit to both you and to our school community. Below are some sample slides that were shared during the presentation.



Teak Class

Mason



Mason has shown **excellence** in all areas of his learning and always completes his work to the best of his ability. He is a **great role model** to others and a **responsible and helpful** member of Teak Class. Even a staff member at Dover Castle commented on Mason's **excellent manners**!

Well done Mason, keep it up!





Ash Class

Lily

Lily consistently demonstrates the values of excellence and resilience, always working hard and striving to improve. Recently, she has made particularly impressive progress, showing great determination in Maths and never giving up when challenges arise. Her improvement in English has been outstanding; through hard work and perseverance, she produces engaging, high-quality writing with increasing accuracy and attention to detail.

Lily should be very proud of all she has achieved.



Crazy Hair Day

What a fantastic display of creativity and colour during our recent Crazy Hair Day - from rainbow spikes to ice-cream cones and noodle cups, the imagination on show was incredible! A huge thank-you to parents for your brilliant contributions to the Summer Fair, and for helping us celebrate the diversity and individuality that make our school community so special.

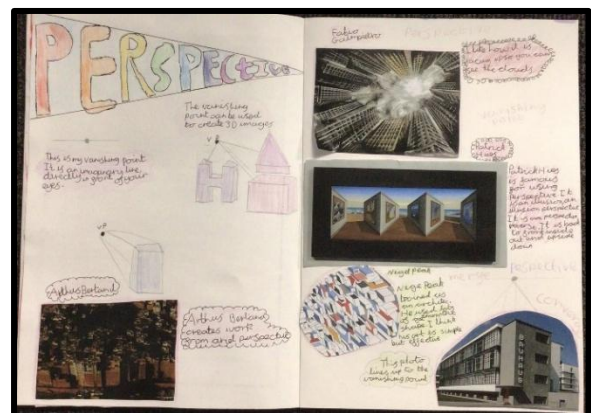
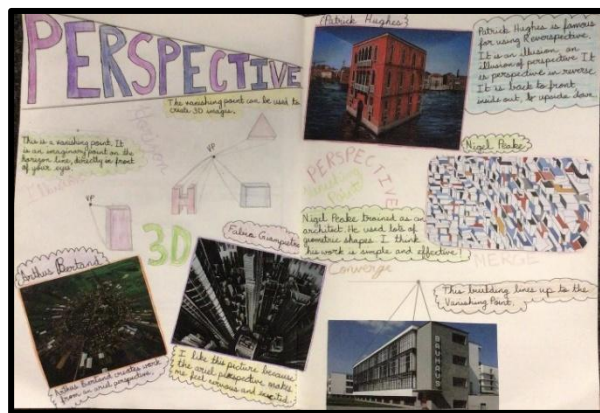


Curriculum News

Awesome Art

At St Katherine's, art is far more than a subject - it is a powerful vehicle for children to reflect, critique and express themselves as true artists.

This term, Year 5 have launched their art journey by exploring perspective, learning how vanishing points and converging lines create depth and realism. Their sketchbooks beautifully demonstrate this process, showcasing thoughtful research, critique and creative experimentation - a clear reflection of how our curriculum inspires pupils to think and act as artists.



Young Activists – Sustainability

Recently, Reception children explored exploring the story 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' to understand the impact plastic has on our environment and the importance of recycling and disposing of rubbish responsibly. Inspired by the boy in the story, the children worked together to create kites from recycled plastic — and even managed to test them out today (despite the lack of wind!). Their creativity and care for the planet remind us that small actions can make a big difference.



Clubs and Enrichment

At St Katherine's, we are always looking to broaden our extra-curricular offer and provide children with exciting opportunities beyond the classroom. This term, we have introduced two new clubs, F1 Club (Year 5) and IXL Maths Club (Years 3, 4 & 5) which you can see showcased below.

We also made contact with a specialist 3D Printing Club, who offered us the fantastic opportunity for pupils to develop skills in 3D design, modelling and printing techniques. Unfortunately, we did not have enough uptake for the club to run this term; however, we will be offering it again in the autumn term, and we hope to have sufficient interest to launch it successfully.



Pupil Voice: *"I really enjoy IXL. Questions get harder each time to challenge me and I achieved the top score of 100 three times!" (Isla – Year 4)*

Year 2 Shorne Country Park

Year 2 had a fantastic day at Shorne Country Park as part of their science learning on habitats. During their visit, the children took part in a nature walk, pond dipping and a minibeast hunt, discovering an exciting range of living things in their natural environments.

They explored woodland, meadow and pond habitats, which opened up wonderful discussions about how different animals are suited to the places they live, what they need to survive, and how each habitat provides food, shelter and protection. The children showed great curiosity and enthusiasm throughout — a brilliant hands-on learning experience that brought their science topic to life.



National Teacher Appreciation Day

Next week marks National Teacher Appreciation Day, taking place on Wednesday 17th June 2026. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to our teaching staff for the continued nurture, drive and aspiration they provide every single day. They give our children stability, encouragement and the belief that they can achieve more than they ever thought possible. Their dedication underpins everything we do at St Katherine's, and we are deeply grateful for all that they bring to our school community.



Sports

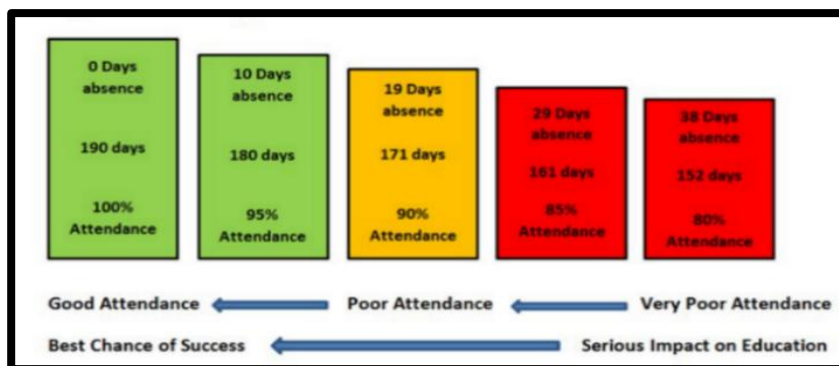
Jaguars Crowned Champions!

Our superstar Jaguars have once again shown what teamwork, dedication and determination can achieve! Competing with confidence and flair, they smashed their routine and were crowned CHAMPIONS at the Kent School Games - a phenomenal result that reflects their hard work and commitment. The energy, precision and joy they brought to the floor were simply outstanding, and we couldn't be prouder of every member of the squad. What a fantastic representation of St Katherine's community and excellence!



Pupil Voice: *"It was challenging but we remain undefeated!"* (Ayla – Year 5)

Attendance Matters!



Termly Attendance

Good attendance is one of the strongest predictors of how well children achieve in school. Even small, regular absences can add up quickly, making it harder for pupils to keep up with new learning, stay confident, and build the routines that help them thrive.

Being in school every day ensures children don't miss key teaching, social interaction, and the sense of belonging that comes from being part of their class community. Please continue to support your child by helping them attend every day they are well enough to be in school. If you are experiencing any difficulties with attendance, we are always here to help.

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 100%		
R	Bramley 96.1%	Gala 92.4%	
1	Peach 94.1%	Pear 97.5%	
2	Cherry 95.0%	Quince 95.8%	Damson 96.4%
3	Hazel 89.9%	Walnut 92.4%	
4	Spruce 90%	Fir 92.0%	
5	Cedar 88.6%	Teak 91.0%	Mahogany 91.4%
6	Ash 88.2%	Oak 97.3%	

School Target: 95%

Key Dates



Events – Summer Term 2 2026	
EVENT	DATE
Start of Term	Monday 1 st June
Year 4 Visit to Howletts Zoo	Tuesday 16 th June
PTA Gift Room - Father's Day / Special Person	Thursday 18 th June
Year 1 Visit to Wingham Wildlife Park	Friday 19 th June
Parent Voice Meeting	Friday 19 th June 9am
PTA Summer Fair	Saturday 20 th June 11am-2pm
PGL Residential Year 6	Monday 22 nd – Wednesday 24 th June
Sports Day KS2 (Five Acre Wood & YR3-YR6)	Tuesday 30 th June 9:30-11:30am
Sports Day Year R & KS1 (YR-YR2)	Tuesday 30 th June 1:15-3pm
Nursery Sports Day	Wednesday 1 st July 9:15am -10am
CRIBS – Moving UP Transition Year 6	Friday 3 rd July AM
PTA Summer Disco Year R – Year 6	Friday 3 rd July 2-7:30pm
Nursery and Year R Reports sent out	Monday 6 th July
Year 1 and Year 2 Reports sent out	Tuesday 7 th July
Meet the Teacher	Tuesday 7 th July 2:30-3pm
Year 3 and Year 4 Reports sent out	Wednesday 8 th July
Year 6 Production	Wednesday 8 th July 6-7:30pm
Year 5 and Year 6 Reports sent out	Thursday 9 th July
Year 6 Production	Thursday 9 th July 6-7:30pm
Meet the Teacher	Thursday 9 th July 2-3pm
Reserve Sports Day KS2 (Five Acre Wood & YR3-YR6)	Monday 13 th July 9:30-11:30am
Reserve Sports Day Year R & KS1 (YR-YR2)	Monday 13 th July 1:15-3pm
Optional Parents Evening	Monday 13 th July
Reserve Nursery Sports Day	Wednesday 15 th July 9:15am – 10am
Year 6 Leavers Party	Thursday 16 th July 5:30pm
Nursery Leavers Party – Picnic and Bouncy Castle	Friday 17 th July

Dance Through the Musicals	<i>Monday 20th July</i>
Year 6 Leavers Assembly to Parents	<i>Tuesday 21st July 1:30pm</i>
End of Term	<i>Tuesday 21st July</i>

Have a lovely weekend.

M Lang